

Application No.: 10/000284

Case No.: 56530US002

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 12 and 14 to 23 are pending. Claims 13 and 24-35 are currently canceled and Claims 36-52 are previously cancelled. Claim 1 is currently amended. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 15-27, and 34-35 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Number 2003/0236321 to Sano et al. ("Sano") in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,929,160 to Krepski et al. ("Krepski").

Claims 1-5, 9-16, 23-25, 27, 31 and 34-35 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 5,889,083 to Zhu ("Zhu") in view of Krepski.

Claims 1-2, 4-12, 15-16, 23-25, 27-30 and 32-35 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,533,408 to Erdtmann et al. ("Erdtmann") in view of Krepski.

Claims 13 and 24-35 are currently cancelled. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of Claim 13. Claim 13 was only rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhu in view of Krepski. Therefore, all other rejections are now moot.

Krepski is directed to protective or decorative coatings on, for example, paper. Zhu is directed an aqueous ink composition having viscosity lower than 10 cP (10mPa.s). However, it is not reasonable to expect that such a low viscosity would be maintained in the ink composition currently claimed. The Examiner states that Krepski discloses the polymer in compositions 1-50,000 cP (1-50,000 mPa.s). However, there is no teaching of specific formulations having viscosity of less than about 20 mPa.s at 20°C and at a shear rate of 1000 s⁻¹. Krepski only teaches that water solutions may be made having low viscosities, not where such a formulation is also an inkjet ink. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection by the Examiner.

Application No.: 10/000284

Case No.: 56530US002

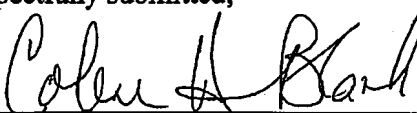
In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.
Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

September 20, 2007

Date

By:



Colene H. Blank, Reg. No.: 41,056

Telephone No.: 651-737-2356

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833